Sākhi

Jahiyaa janma mukta hota ,

Tahiyaa hotaa na koya |

Chathi tumhari haun jagaa,

tu kahaan chalaa bigoya ||1||

Before creation there was nothing but You (atman, the Supreme self), free from birth and consequential bondages. None other than You existed. Then arose the desire to multiply, to manifest itself in many forms. Now where are You proceeding to for liberation after destroying Your pristine and pure nature by entangling Yourself in frauds and fancies.

Sabda hamara tu sabdaka,

Suni mati jahu saraki |

jo chahe nija tatva ko,

sabdahi lehu parakhi ||2||

Sadguru Kabir Saheb says that his word is the eternal word (Satya Sabda), and man has right to that ‘word’. He cautions that after hearing that ‘word’ not to ignore it and get entangled into worldly affairs and illusions. If you want to attain the true knowledge of the highest essence then test those ‘words’ and inculcate them in yourself.

Sabda hamara aadika,

Sabdai paitha jiva |

phula rahani ki tokari,

ghore khaya ghiva ||3||

My ‘word’ (Satya Sabda) is eternal. That ‘word’ resides in the individual soul in the form of the sentient. That Maya (illusion) has shrouded the pure nature of soul in the same way as buttermilk keeps the butter dissolved in it.

Sabda bina sruti andhari,

kaho kahan ko jaya |

dvara na pavai sabdka,

phiri-phiri bhatka khaay ||4||

Without the ‘word’ (Satya Sabda), as a guide and beacon, meditation is akin to blindness, tell me where should I proceed. It is unable to find its way to the doorway of the ‘word’ (Satya Sabda) and is wandering among things that are materialistic and temporary.

Sabda sabda bahu antra,

saar sabda mati lije |

kahahin Kabir jehi sara sabda nahi,

dhriga jivana so jiive ||5||

There are various distinctions among words. One should try to accept and inculcate the ‘Saar Sabda’ (decisive statement). One who has not attained ‘Saar Sabda’ lives a lowly and inferior life.

Sabdai mara gira para,

sabdahi chora raaj |

jina jina sabda bibekiya,

tinaka sarigau kaaja ||6||

Words have the power to morally degrade or uplift a person. Upon hearing words of lust or passion a person falls morally, however on the other hand the words of detachment may compel an emperor to give up his kingdom. So those wise persons who have the faculty to discriminate words have found the path to liberation.

Sabda hamar aadika,

pala-pala karahu yaada |

antaa phalegi maahali,

upara ki sabh baada ||7||

My ‘word’ (Satya Sabda) is eternal so remember it every moment of your life and think upon it. It is your internal desire which would bear its fruit in the end, rest of the superfluous talks and baseless rituals which you indulge in will bear no fruit.

Kabir Lahartara